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Market Brief - Product

Norway : Norwegian minimum WTO and GDP access quotas auctioned for 1999.

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Norwegian minimum access quota WTO and GSP, given in auction for 1999.

1. Currently, the Norwegian tariff rate quotas are divided into two categories - Minimum access quotas and GSP quotas. The minimum access WTO quota is increasing every year while the GSP quota is unchanged. The WTO quota increased with about 700 tons in total from 4054 in 1998 to 4,764 tons in 1999 while the GSP quota was 1,042 tons.

Both quotas are traded at auctions held by Statens Kornforretning, the Ministry of Agriculture's office controlling all imports. The interest for the quotas among Norwegian importers this year had more than doubled. Specially is this the case for meat imports, which gave much higher prices than last years auctions. We also feel that more traditional domestic slaughterhouses and meat traders have participated in the auction, and the reason might be that they feel the competition in the market from relatively small import companies, who have used the quotas for speciality niche products.

For GSP products there are little change in the interest other than Honey, as we know it is a shortage of honey in Norway for 1999. Further the GSP quotas for a lot of vegetable was already given in January 1998, which we have already reported on, but still included in this year report.

Below you will find the figures for the 1999 auction:

OVERVIEW OF THE NORWEGIAN MINIMUM ACCESS QUOTA FOR PRODUCTS UNDER WTO for 1999.
Auction

PRODUCTS	TARIFF NR.	MIN. QUOTA METRIC TON	MIN. DUTY NOK/KG	ORDINARY NOK/KG	Bids number	Average NOK/KG	Bought tonnage
MEAT OF BOVINE							
	02.02.1000	903	12.15	32.28	24	5.93	903
	02.02.2000		25.00	66.40			
	02.02.3001		44.80	119.01			
	02.02.3009		44.80	119.01			
MEAT OF SWINE	02.03.2100	1151	9.28	24.64	21	0.73	1151
MEAT OF SHEEP OR GOATS							
	02.04.1000	172	12.23	32.49	22	5.07	172
	02.04.2100		9.09	24.15			
	02.04.2200		32.10	85.27			
	02.04.3000		12.23	32.49			
	02.04.4100		9.09	24.15			
	02.04.4200		32.10	85.27			
	02.04.4300		28.97	76.96			
	02.04.5000		14.01	37.21			
MEAT OF FOWLS	02.07.1200	200	9.68	25.71	7	0.01	200
TURKEYS	02.07.2500	200	10.33	27.45	9	0.02	200
DUCKS GEESE FOWLS	02.07.3300	200	18.22	48.40	12	0.50	200

BUTTER	04.05.0000	533	4.42	25.19	5	0.01	533
HENS ' EGGS	04.07.0019	1161	5.04	12.59	15	0.03	1161
White CABBAGES	07.04.9013	112	1.43	1.71	2	0.01	112
Red Cabbages	07.04.9040	112	1.43	1.71	1	0.01	112
Turkey, roll	16.02.3100	20	12.5%	64.08	18	3.23	20
Total quotas						4764	4764

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GSP quota auction for Norway 1999.

Tariff Nr	Product	GSP Quota zero duty Metr.tons	Ordinary GSP duty NOK/kg	Bids accept NOK/kg	Bids number	Bought Metr.tons
04.09.0000	Honey	192	12.24	11.82	10	192
16.02.4100	Canned Ham	100	60.42	0.01	2	61
16.02.5000	Canned Corned beef*	200	64.65	0.01	6	200
16.02.5000	Canned Tongue	20	64.65	0.00	0	0
20.05.4000	Canned Peas	200	5.89	0.04	3	200
20.05.5901	Canned String beans	100	7.82	0.05	3	100
20.05.5901	Canned Green beans	50	7.82	0.02	3	50
20.05.9009	Canned Mix.vegetable	150	17.46	0.01	3	130
20.05.4000	Canned Peas	200	5.89	0.03	5	200
20.05.5901	Canned String beans	100	7.82	0.14	5	100
20.05.5901	Canned Green beans	50	7.82	0.02	4	50
20.05.9009	Canned Mix.vegetable	150	17.46	0.01	3	150

*)145 tons WTO quota at 12.5% and 55 tons as GSP.

Rate of exchange US\$=NOK7.50

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Comments: As stated in last years report only 23.5 percent of the WTO minimum quotas for 1997 and 27 percent of the GSP quotas was actually imported. It is to early to give you the figures for 1998, but will try to revert on this later this year. The reason for the low import is said to be that the Ministry, when in need of a product, use their administrative duty to undercut the quota duty.